

Docket Nos. 42310 & 42311
Georgia Power Company's 2019 IRP and 2019 DSM Application
STF-JKA Data Request Set Number 1

STF-JKA-1-34

Question:

In the Commission's Order Regarding Stewart County Site Investigation in Docket No. 40161, dated May 8, 2017, it stated, "The Company's most recent consideration indicates that new nuclear has moved outside of the IRP planning horizon."

- a. What factors led the Company to conclude during the 2016 IRP that new nuclear was inside the IRP planning horizon?
- b. What factors changed by May 8, 2017 that resulted in new nuclear moving outside the IRP planning horizon?
- c. The Company also indicated that this decision was based on information learned during routine reviews of IRP assumptions and trends that impact the timing for when new generation will be needed. Please explain what the old and new IRP assumptions were that changed, and what trends the Company became aware of that led to the conclusion to suspend the nuclear development.
- d. If by May 8, 2017, it was determined that the new nuclear moved outside the IRP planning horizon, did the Company even find it necessary to study nuclear options in the 2019 IRP? If so, what changed that made it important to consider nuclear units in the 2019 IRP, if in fact the Company did consider them?

Response:

- a. As presented in Appendix G of the Company's Mix Study filed in the 2016 IRP, new nuclear was selected in the expansion plan for several of the nine planning scenarios. As such, although the role of new nuclear in the 2016 IRP Mix Study was diminished from what was presented in the 2013 IRP, new nuclear still had a prevalent role in the Company's expansion plans in the 2016 IRP.
- b. As explained in detail in the Company's response to STF-JKA-1-38, a combination of lower projected loads, lower projected natural gas price forecasts, and improvements in gas generation technology in both costs and operational characteristics resulted in new nuclear moving outside the IRP planning horizon.
- c. See the Company's response to part (b).
- d. While new nuclear is outside the 2019 IRP planning horizon, the Company continues to view nuclear power as an important technology in providing clean, safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to our customers over the long term. New nuclear is included in the Generation Technology Data Book found in Technical Appendix Volume 1 and

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Attachment B in the Main Document of the Company's 2019 IRP. Attachment B discusses the Company's technology screening process. Due to a variety of reasons including cost, fuel price forecast, and load forecast, new nuclear was not offered as an option to be selected by Strategist/PROVIEW in the 2019 IRP.